



## U.S. Patent Application of:

Confirmation No: 3484

Group Art Unit: 2651

Examiner: Unassigned

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
2011 South Clark Place  
Customer Window, Mail Stop RCE  
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03  
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

### **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Accordingly, Applicants do not believe that a fee is due for filing this paper.

The listed documents were cited in a European Search Report dated November 24, 2003.

A copy of the European Search Report is enclosed for the Examiner's consideration.

Copies of the listed documents are attached.

Applicants request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached PTO Form 1449.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "Prior Art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "Prior Art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of the document.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over any of the listed documents, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

**EXCEPT** for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

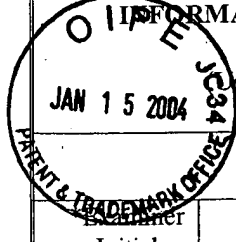
**MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP**

By:



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Dated: January 15, 2004  
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 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Use several sheets if necessary)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PTO Form 1449</b></p>				Attorney Docket No. 054791-5018		Application No.: 10/632,114	
				Applicant(s): Takashi SASAKI et al.		<b>PAGE 1 of 1</b>	
				Filing Date: August 1, 2003		Group Art Unit: Unassigned	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation YES NO		
	EP 0 865 041	Sep. 16, 1998	Europe					
	EP 0 795 813 A2	Sep. 17, 1997	Europe					
	EP 0 836 187 A1	Apr. 15, 1998	Europe					
	EP 0 822 553	Feb. 4, 1998	Europe					
	EP 0 821 356	Jan. 28, 1998	Europe					
	EP 0 883 113	Dec. 9, 1998	Europe					

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		

Examiner:	Date Considered
Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	